



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Public Notice – Environmental Regulation Concrete Products General Permit Reissuance

Notice of action: The State Water Control Board is considering the amendment of a regulation on water quality. A regulation is a general rule governing people's rights or conduct that is upheld by a state agency. This general permit regulation will allow the release of treated wastewater, storm water and cooling water into surface waters of the Commonwealth, except waters specifically named in Board regulations or policies which prohibit such discharges for those who register for coverage under this permit.

Permit Regulation name: General Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permit for Concrete Products Facilities (9 VAC 25-193). Permit number VAG11.

Purpose of notice: The board is seeking comments through the Department of Environmental Quality on 1) the proposal 2) the costs and benefits of the proposal 3) effects of the proposal on farm and forest land preservation and 4) impacts on small businesses.

Public comment period: November 26, 2007 to January 25, 2008

Public hearing: DEQ Piedmont Regional Office 4949-A Cox Road in Glen Allen, VA on January 7, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. A question and answer period will be held one half hour prior to the public hearing at the same location. Interested citizens will have an opportunity to ask questions pertaining to the proposal at that time.

Public comment stage: Notice of Public Comment

Description of proposed regulation: The State Water Control Board is considering the amendment of a regulation that establishes the General VPDES Permit for Concrete Products Facilities (SIC Codes 3271, 3272 and 3273). Permittees must register to be covered under the general permit. This regulation will reissue the existing general permit which expires on September 30, 2008. This general permit controls the release of wastewater, non-contact cooling water and storm water to state waters from concrete products facilities by limiting solids, petroleum hydrocarbons, pH and chlorine in amounts that protect water quality. Changes to the general permit regulation include (1) adding a requirement for no solids deposition in surface water; (2) that the visual quality of the receiving stream (including observations of solids deposition from the industrial activity) in the vicinity of the outfall (including ditches and conveyances) should be included in the quarterly visual examination reports; (3) that where settling basins are operated in a series, the existing requirement for one foot of freeboard for the upper basins may be waived provided the final basin will maintain the freeboard requirements; (4) that all settling basins must have liners if constructed after February 1998; and (5) that discharge monitoring be reported at two significant digits.

Issues Raised by the Public: The previous comment period was from November 27, 2006 to December 28, 2006. There were no comments received at that time.

Locality particularly affected: The regulations will be applicable statewide and will not affect any one locality disproportionately.

How to comment: The DEQ accepts written comments by e-mail, fax and postal mail. All written comments must include the full name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ by 5 p.m. on the last day of the comment period. Both oral and written comments are accepted at the public meeting. DEQ prefers the submittal of written comments, including a copy of supporting documents or exhibits. All testimony, exhibits and documents received are part of the public record.

How a decision is made: After comments have been considered, the board will make the final decision. Citizens that submit statements during the comment period may address the board members during the board meeting at which a final decision is made on the proposal.

To review regulation documents: The proposal and an analysis conducted by DEQ (including a statement of purpose, a statement of estimated impacts and benefits of the proposed regulation, an estimate of the impact of the proposed regulation upon small businesses, identification of and comparison with federal requirements, and a discussion of alternative approaches), are available on the Town Hall web site at www.townhall.virginia.gov and by contacting the DEQ representative named below. The public may review the documents at the location below.

Contact for public comments, document requests and additional information: Elleanore Daub; DEQ, 629 E. Main St., Richmond, VA 23219; Phone: (804) 698-4111; E-mail: emdaub@deq.virginia.gov; Fax: (804) 698-4032